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For Your Child

**ONEG**

FOLDING FURNITURE

## Marginal Column

By "COMMENTATOR"

THE much publicized and widely maligned issue of "Colliers" containing the "preview of the war we do not want" has finally arrived in this country, and valuable as it is, it is not as valuable as the "Colliers" which we can now see for ourselves. It is a clever publicity stunt containing some first class ideas, but the illustrations are, as so often in American periodicals, much more impressive than the text. Even the contributions of such old hands as Koestler and Priestley fall flat. But the report of "Russia's defeat and occupation" is not war mongering. This publication, incidentally, was preceded by the attempts of such Soviet writers as Shpanov and Pavlenko to describe the course of a future war, which was apparently overlooked by some indignant colleagues in the Western world.

"COLLIERS" describes what might be called one out of three theoretical results of a third world war—if it should indeed be inevitable. Soviet writers tend to consider naturally enough only the second possibility, while the third, which is at least as likely if, that there will be no victors at all has apparently not yet been given the same measure of consideration. The assumption of "Colliers" that a third world war might be provoked by an attempt on Tito's life and a subsequent invasion by "free Yugoslavs" is perhaps not so unrealistic. Communists, to be sure, oppose individual terrorism, but there have been a number of notable exceptions to this rule of which Trotsky was only one, and it is not altogether unlikely that another such exception made now and based on a political miscalculation would lead to world war. Peter Popivoda's "free Yugoslav" forces, too, have been stationed near to the Yugoslav frontier, it is reported, than the "World Peace Council" of which Popivoda is a member should allow.

IN 1489 two German writers, Sprenger and Institoris, published a book which became subsequently even more famous than this issue of "Colliers"—Malleus Maleficarum. It contains scientific proof of the theory that witches do exist and lists them and their witchcraft. It contains very elaborate prescriptions of how to get public admissions out of them. Fittingly enough this book was reprinted some time ago, as millions of people nowadays again pretend to believe in the existence and the admissions of tens of thousands of witches—ever since the big trials began 15 years ago. This must be said a book in the right hour.

LAST month a number of Catholic nuns in Tientsin (China) were charged with the murder of about 40,000 Chinese children, and last week Sister Antoinette Couvrette, of the Canton Holy Infant Orphanage, was accused by a Chinese People's Court of willfully murdering 3,116 Chinese babies. There is little doubt that our fellow-travelling friends who believe all trials and admissions will believe this one too. During the Middle Ages, the large majority of people in Europe believed, or pretended to, in witches and their admissions. The last witch was burned, it is reported, only 160 years ago, i.e. at the time of the French Revolution. If human nature changes at all, it changes very slowly and recidives appear to be inevitable. Let us hope that the lady in Canton is not for burning. We are not so sure about Mr. Slansky. Jerusalem, December 16.

**King George Marks 56th Birthday**

LONDON, Saturday (Reuters).—King George VI celebrated his 56th birthday today, but he stayed in Buckingham Palace because of the thick fog which lay over the country.

## Allies Turn Down Communist Truce Supervision Plan

PANMUNJOM, Saturday.—The U.N. today rejected the Communist six-point proposal for supervision of a Korean armistice. General Howard Turner, U.N. truce delegate, told Communist negotiators they were seeking "to gain through negotiation what you could not win through fighting."

The Communist proposals would have limited troop rotation and the policing of the armistice, restricting replacement of combat-weary troops during the armistice to 5,000 a month.

The second subcommittee, debating the exchange of war prisoners, was also stalemated today. The U.N. delegate, Rear Admiral R. Libby, told the Communists that their refusal to permit Red Cross representatives to visit prison camps only "feeds the fire of suspicion."

Despite the lack of progress, however, both subcommittees agreed a meet again tomorrow morning.

Gen. Turner told the Communists that the U.N. is still willing to consider any new realistic proposal on how to police the armistice.

Meanwhile, reports from Washington said the Joint Chiefs of Staff have authorized General Matthew Ridgway to propose Sweden, Norway and Switzerland as members of an international truce inspection team in Korea if and when the armistice negotiations reach the point for such a proposal.

## Belgium Bails At High Arming Rate

PARIS, Saturday (Reuters).—Belgium led a revolt of NATO nations against increased defence expenditures when delegates of the twelve nations met here yesterday, according to sources close to the conference.

The delegates considered a report on rearmament drawn up by their "three wise men."

The recommendations of the three included, according to well-informed sources here, a 40 per cent increase over three years for Denmark and a lesser increase in military expenditure for Holland, Norway, Italy and Canada.

France was asked to increase her effort by five per cent and no increase was asked from Britain and the U.S. The Belgians reportedly said yesterday that they could not agree to the recommendations.

## Israel Reported As Buyer Of Mexican Oil

MEXICO CITY, Saturday (Reuters).—Israel is negotiating to buy ten million barrels of Mexican crude oil a year, a usually reliable source said here yesterday.

The Haifa refinery is said to be operating at 25 per cent of capacity, with 20,000 barrels of oil a day from Venezuela.

Private bankers in New York acting for the Israel Government, are understood to have begun negotiations with Petroleos Mexicanos, the Mexican Government's administration for petroleum. They are expected to send representatives here in a few days to buy oil directly for dollars.

## New Anti-Jewish Law for Syria

The Syrian Ministry of Justice has been ordered to prepare a new draft bill which will freeze the property and funds of Syria's Jews, according to the Damascus correspondent of the NEABS.

The new bill, which will follow the lines of the one adopted by Iraq last year, will be based on the ordinance in force in Israel with regard to Arab funds and property frozen by the Custodian of Absentee Property.

Whereas some 30,000 Jews were shown to be living in Syria by the last census in 1943, fewer than 6,000 are now believed to be left there. Conditions have deteriorated rapidly and even the once wealthy Aleppo community is now believed to have been impoverished.

## POLICE QUELL HAIFA RIOT

By Yacov Ardon, POST Correspondent

HAIFA, Saturday.—Seven constables were still in hospital tonight out of 34 who were injured in yesterday's violence here which began when police took action to remove the striking crew from the a.s. Tel Aviv and was continued on shore when several hundred demonstrators broke into the port. None of those injured is on the danger list. Comparatively few demonstrators were injured, and the exact number could not be determined tonight. Today's gale and rainstorm restored Haifa to quiet and reason.

For over an hour yesterday some 40 sailors aboard the Tel Aviv defied the efforts of the Port Police to scale the ship from a tugboat.

The Tel Aviv had arrived with 10,000 tons of cargo from the U.S. including some urgently needed commodities a week ago. Before the sailors ended their resistance, and police took over, 13 policemen were injured, of whom four were later detained in hospital.

The sailors said that they gave up after a police officer whom they had captured warned them that he would hold them responsible for the death of three of his men. The Port Police Commander later said that he had not heard this story and that it was not true.

At 3.30 in the afternoon, the police boarded the strike-bound a.s. Rimon, and encountered only passive resistance from the crew. The owners of the two vessels said that they warned the crews that unless they ended their strike, they would be dismissed. They refused to move, and the Tel Aviv's master, Captain I. Aronovich, handed in his resignation. The owners then asked the Port Police to remove the crews.

**Battle With Hoses**

At 11.15 a.m. a flotilla of two tugboats, a police patrol vessel, the port fire-fighting barge, and several motor boats carried steel-helmeted constables of the Port Police Division reinforced by men of the Police Training Depot towards the a.s. Tel Aviv.

When the sailors aboard the ship spotted the preparations ashore they sounded their sirens, and shot off flares. Fire hoses spouted jets of water onto the deck, which was barricaded with packing cases and spiked with boards.

The sailors rejected a final warning of a police officer to allow the Tel Aviv to be unloaded, and when the tug moved up, they trained the ship's hoses onto the constables. The fire-fighting barge replied with its powerful pumps, and for an hour and a half there was an incessant exchange of water jets that thoroughly drenched all the combatants. The constables were also subjected to a hail of pieces of timber, bottles, and other missiles. Handicapped by their lower position on the barges, the policemen courageously raised ladders against the ship's railing, but the sailors from their rampart smashed them and threw them into the sea. They also pulled some aboard, thus capturing two constables and an officer.

Tempers grew fierce, as several policemen were injured and the fight grew more violent. One officer barely dodged a knife thrown at him, and a constable was badly handled by the sailors after he was captured. A bucketful of black oil of bilge was also thrown from the deck, but a gust of wind carried it wide of its mark.

After an hour, there was a

## 'Yaffo' Strikers Taken to Ellis Is.

By Jesse Tel Lurie, POST Correspondent

NEW YORK, Saturday.—This Sabbath morning 23 striking Israel seamen awoke in Ellis Island awaiting deportation.

They were taken off the ship Yaffo early yesterday by eight immigration inspectors at the request of Mr. Nevo, Israel Consul here, and Mr. Rezanat, Manager of the Israel-Arabian Line, who asked each seaman individually whether he would continue working. Twenty-two agreed.

Those who answered negatively were taken to Manhattan Immigration Headquarters where, according to their spokesman, they were interrogated for a full day and then charged with illegal entry and removed to Ellis Island for a hearing on Monday.

The Yaffo is bringing 4,000 tons of newspaper from Canada, medical supplies and warm clothing, and it was announced today that the ship is expected to sail on December 21, after additional crew has been signed on.

## Eban Confers With State Dept. Official

WASHINGTON, Saturday (UP).—The Israel Ambassador, Mr. Eban, conferred for 20 minutes today with Mr. John Hickerson, Assistant Secretary of State for U.N. Affairs relating to Korea and Palestine.

Mr. Eban told reporters that the Korean question was raised in a general way, but denied that Israel was asked to act as a neutral observer. He stated that next year's U.N. efforts on Palestine conciliation and Arab refugees was discussed.

There is general agreement that there must be some change in the procedure so far taken. We expect the views of the U.S. and other members to be embodied in some action to be taken by the U.N. early in January," Mr. Eban stated.

Mr. Eban said that he planned to leave Washington on Tuesday for a two-week visit to Israel before proceeding to Paris to assume leadership of the delegation to the General Assembly.

## Poland Asks For More Meetings By Big Four

By Big Four

PARIS, Saturday (Reuters).—The Polish Delegate, M. Stefan Wierbowski, told the U.N. Political Committee here today that Big Four agreement on technical aspects of disarmament made it essential that efforts be continued.

It was clear that many states sought agreement based on compromise. It was regrettable, however, that the Big Four subcommittee had failed to put forward concrete proposals.

The Political Committee was discussing the preamble of the revised Western disarmament plan.

M. Wierbowski said the revised Western text passed over in silence the question of the prohibition of atomic weapons. Agreement on this question would lay the foundation for agreement in all other fields.

Only the adoption of the Soviet amendments would create a sound basis for achieving the work of the proposed atomic energy and conventional armaments commission.

**Crowd at Port**

When the operation against the a.s. Tel Aviv began some 70 to 80 men gathered on the shore. Hosts through Rehov Atzmat to the main port entrance, gathering sympathizers on route. A crowd of several hundred broke into the port, but were driven back by Port Police reinforced by civil police.

The demonstrators then took to throwing stones, and from their well-aimed slings stones continued intermittently, with some causing serious injury. One man was seriously injured, and another was killed. Police carried out helmets, truncheons, and shields, but sometimes they resorted to hitting back the stones from the shore.

In the afternoon, Rehov Atzmat was strewn with stones, torn-out trees and fences. One person either fired a shot into the air or threw a stone, but no one was hurt.

Police loud-speakers came later patrolled the streets, and called on the crowds to disperse. With the onset of darkness the section emptied, and order was restored.

In the clashes, 52 policemen were injured, of whom three were still in hospital this evening. Their condition was reported to be satisfactory.

Twenty-eight persons were arrested, of whom 15 were k-habimim affiliated with Hashomer Hatzair, Histadrut circles claim. The trouble-makers were organized by a group of former Palmach leaders who had set up headquarters in Haifa.

The Knesset resolution passed on Tuesday calling upon the striking seamen to return to work has been forwarded to the Seamen's Union, it was announced on Friday.

(See Twenty Arrested, Page 3)

## British Train In Egypt Derailed

SUEZ CANAL ZONE, Saturday.—A railway engine was overturned and five carriages "telescoped" when a British military train left the rails between Suez and Ismailia today, British authorities in the Canal Zone said they suspected sabotage. One British soldier had a leg broken. First reports said the line was likely to be blocked for three days. A British spokesman added that army investigators were trying to find out what caused the crash.

Egyptians partly demolished a Royal Air Force radio mast in a dynamite attack near Ismailia last night. A British spokesman said today that terrorists crawled through a gap in the wire surrounding the Spinney Wood Radio Station to make their attack.

They escaped unhindered.

In Cairo, the U.S. Ambassador, Mr. Jefferson Caffery, today again called on Acting Egyptian Foreign Minister Ibrahim Faraj Pasha. Later Mr. Caffery told pressmen the U.S. is trying to solve the Anglo-Egyptian dispute.

Mr. Caffery spoke to Faraj Pasha as police prepared a state of emergency throughout Cairo for the reopening of schools after the violent student riots earlier this month.

Yesterday, two Egyptian employees of the British Embassy in Cairo were kidnapped by an Egyptian crowd, dragged to a police station and charged with having invited workers to return to the Suez Canal Zone. Cairo Radio today reported they were jailed for four days.

The Cairo weekly "Akhhbar al-Yom," said in a report from Paris that the kidnapping was a certain Egyptian dispute by a certain country was now the subject of a diplomatic enquiry from the European countries met here today to give their Foreign Minister first-hand reports on European reaction to Egypt's foreign policy.

## Jordan Parliament Declares In Favour of Iraq Merger

A majority of the Jordan Parliament in Amman on Thursday night expressed itself in favour of a union between Jordan and Iraq. Composed of Palestine Arab and Jordan opposition, the majority requested that the Government should immediately call a secret joint session of both Houses to explain why it should not take all practical steps to implement such a union.

The vote in favour of the motion was taken in spite of the Government's assurance that no such session was required, and that the Cabinet was considering the matter.

The topic arose in the House in the course of a heated debate on Jordan's economic and financial crisis "which no foreign loans whatever could permanently cure," as some members maintained.

The only possible permanent solution was union with another Arab state, which could save Jordan from complete collapse. Hashemite Iraq was such a country, the majority claimed, and added that the earlier such a union came about, the better.

The House established a parliamentary committee to recommend the necessary steps to be taken for a "provisional" improvement of the economic situation and the eradication of mass unemployment.

## Locke Sees Sharett, Arab Heads in Paris

PARIS, Saturday (AP).—Mr. Edwin Locke, head of the Mutual Security Administration's Middle East Economic Aid Section, conferred today with Middle East leaders over details of the programme's application in that area.

He lunched with Mr. Moshe Sharett of Israel, and earlier met Faris el Khoury of Syria. He has scheduled a number of other interviews with representatives of Middle East states attending the U.N. General Assembly.

Mr. Locke plans to fly to Beirut on Tuesday for on-the-spot conferences in the Arab states and later will proceed to Israel.

The Mutual Security Programme has allotted approximately \$150,000,000 for aid to the Middle East in an attempt to bring economic stability to the region.

## Eighty-Km. Gale Sweeps Israel, May Ease Today

Warning Service Curbs Damage

TEL AVIV, Saturday.—A fierce gale with driving rains and winds of over 80 kilometres an hour velocity blew throughout Israel today. Considerable damage was caused in ma'barot and in cities, but the rain, in general, was welcomed by the agricultural community. Farmers said that rain was good for the crops; but the citrus growers complained that the strong winds damaged fruit on the tree and the trees themselves.

One of the early victims of the storm was the Israel Broadcasting Service as the aerial in Tel Aviv was blown from its moorings by a strong gust last night. Transmission continued on an alternative wavelength. The aerial was repaired by this morning.

The damage caused by the high winds would probably have been greater than actually reported had it not been for several gale warnings issued since yesterday afternoon by the Israel Meteorological Service. All aircraft at Lydda Airport were thus sheltered and no damage was caused. There was no movement at the airport today.

The gale warnings were issued to all shipping and air services, the telephone service and to industries and institutions interested in this advance information. Despite these warnings, the Palestine Electric Corporation tonight said that considerable damage had been caused, as power lines were torn down by the wind directly, or by flying debris. Urban and interurban telephone service was also interrupted by damaged lines.

The Palestine Electric Corporation said tonight that some power lines might not be repaired until tomorrow.

The Meteorological Service said tonight that the storm was caused by a deep depression moving from southern Russia. In the area around Israel, this depression mingled with the depression already over the country thus deepening it suddenly. A squall line quickly passed over the country from the West this afternoon, giving rise to a sudden and intense wind of short duration. The mass of cold air now moving from the West will bring more rain, but winds of decreasing force.

The Army supplied transport for the transfer of children from several ma'barot. In a few places where the local Army personnel stationed in the ma'barot proved insufficient, reinforcements were sent in from Army camps. In Ramle, soldiers helped to transfer persons from flooded cellars to safer places.

The Army is represented in 22 ma'barot by special units, made up almost entirely of reservists who have been there since November 11, preparing the camps for any emergency.

## Rain and Snow

Showers and squalls are forecast for today according to the Meteorological Service. There is a possibility of snow on the hills in the north. A gradual abatement in the storm was also forecast.

More than 134 mm. of rain fell in Tel Aviv during the 12 hours ending eight o'clock yesterday evening and 30.6 mm. in Haifa. At Maale Hahamisha, in the Jerusalem area, 118.7 mm. fell in the 24 hours ending eight o'clock yesterday morning, bringing the total since September to 278.9 mm.

## M.E. Planes Grounded By Stormy Weather

By Shale Gushenbrenner, POST Correspondent

NICOSIA, Saturday.—Stormy weather, high winds and snow conditions were reported from most Middle East centres this morning, meteorological sources here said.

Two aircraft en route to Athens and Baghdad respectively returned here some time after taking off as they encountered heavy storms. Another aircraft took off from Beirut for Nicosia, but returned for the same reason.

Reports from Cairo and Athens said high winds are raging in these areas.

Forecasts for the next 24 hours predicted storms throughout Cyprus and snow. The first snow fell last night in the mountainous area here, and forecasts say snow will fall in the plains well tomorrow.

An official Air Force celebration scheduled for tomorrow has been cancelled due to bad weather—rather an unusual practice for Cyprus.

**Dashed to Bits**

Carrying little ballast, the ship was tossed about so roughly that her anchor either dragged on the bottom or her chain snapped. Before the motor could set her on a course, she was dashed to bits on the hull of the a.s. Empire Company, which had sunk in the Bay in 1942. The German E-mann sank in ten minutes.

The 26 survivors, among whom were the captain, his wife and a stewardess, were given first aid, blankets, warm clothing and food by Welfare Ministry authorities. Several were hospitalized for treatment.

## U.N. Votes Relief For Flood Victims

PARIS, Saturday (Reuters).—The U.N. Children's Emergency Fund has voted \$155,000 to relieve Italian flood victims. It was announced here today.

The money will provide a daily milk ration for 70,000 mothers and children for four months, and woollen garments for 15,000 children.

The allocation was voted by mail after members received an appeal from the U.N. Social Committee for relief for victims of Italy's recent devastating floods.

## Ma'barot Flooded

Damage was caused at the Rehovot ma'barot when masses of water running off the main road collapsed the first row of tents. All telephonic communication with Rehovot was cut for some hours. An SOS came from the Zarnaga ma'barot at Rehovot early this morning and the police and Army rushed to the spot. The Mayor of Rehovot visited the scene. The children were taken to the Hamle immigrant camp, where the immigrants received the evacuees warmly.

The Army supplied blankets and mattresses for them, and Rehovot women's organizations volunteered to organize help for the evacuees. Several canvas huts collapsed at the Givat Brenner ma'barot when water swept into them. The children were taken to Givat Brenner while the adults took refuge in wooden huts.

At the Rehovot Ha'Ayin ma'barot, where some 20 tents collapsed, 19 persons were slightly injured and received first aid. All persons in the collapsed tents and most children in the camp were moved by the police to huts and permanent camps.

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 3)

## Israel Is Mindful Of Possibility Of Merger

Questioned on reports of renewed demands for a merger between Jordan and Iraq, a Foreign Ministry spokesman in Tel Aviv last night said that the Government is mindful of the possibility of developments in this connection.

## NEW BRITISH MINISTER PRESENTS CREDENTIALS

TEL AVIV, Saturday.—The British Minister to Israel, Sir Francis Edward Evans KCMG, presented his credentials to the Acting President, Mr. Y. Sprinzak, at a ceremony held in the President's Office at Hakiryas yesterday. Greetings were exchanged between the Acting President and the Minister, who said that the British people and their Prime Minister thought in very friendly terms of the Jewish nation and its great President.

Sir Francis expressed his regret at President Weismann's indisposition and his best wishes for the President's speedy recovery. Mr. Sprinzak thanked him for these good wishes saying that he hoped that Sir Francis would soon be able to meet the President.

A reception for Sir Francis and Lady Evans was given this evening by Mr. and Mrs. M. Cunay.

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## American Views On European Army

By KENNETH HARRIS

WASHINGTON—While American policy remains wholeheartedly in favour of the creation of a European Army, including German contingents, which might lead in time to a European political union, officials here contemplate other possibilities. At the next NATO Council meeting planned for February cannot produce a decision to institute at least a European Army organization, it may be necessary for the Americans to consider shifting their support to other methods of bringing the Germans into the defence of Europe.

The alternatives are:  
(1) A return to the scheme for the inclusion of German units in the NATO force which was favoured by the American Government up to the middle of this year.  
(2) A scheme whereby the occupying Powers in West Germany should agree to rearm the Germans for defence by a system of bilateral alliances.

**U.S. Misgivings**  
This attitude of American officials is a consequence of two factors: the apparent attitude toward the European Army project of certain European countries, and the probable mood of the U.S. Congress toward European defence when, in January or February, bills for foreign military and economic aid in 1952-53 come up for approval.

While Holland and Belgium have expressed a disinclination to surrender as much national sovereignty as, in American eyes, the European Army plan requires, it is the attitude of France which creates most misgiving in Washington.

It is recognized that the French political situation makes it hard for this or any foreseeable French Government to act with complete confidence, and that in high quarters there is some lessening of enthusiasm for the European Army since it began to appear that Mr. Churchill is less interested in European armies and European union than he seemed to be when in opposition.

On the other hand, it is felt that the French are losing sight of these facts—that the first test of the forces making for a European union is whether they can produce a European defence force, and that if the French cannot agree to the measures which will bring the skeleton of a European Army into existence, they cannot expect their friends to spend their resources in erecting the necessary political framework for military unification.

There is sympathy for French efforts to make elaborate arrangements ensuring

that the Germans will never be able to use the power thus conferred upon them to reconquer Europe, but sympathy only in so far as the French give proper weight to the fact that "time is running out," that the Soviet Union still has a year to try to march across Europe, and that agreement of the European nations on Germany is the best guarantee against such Soviet action.

**British Reluctant**  
It is understood here that Britain merely approved the European Army project and has never promised to participate in it. It is hoped that British political leaders, without advocating British membership in a European Army, will make it clear that in the interests of European defence they think it important to create this army as soon as possible.

The American Congress is bound to investigate the prospects of a European Army and European unity when the foreign aid and military assistance programmes come up early next year. Several of the ablest and most articulate Senators and Congressmen have been in Europe in the last few weeks. Prodded by public opinion, they will demand to know what steps Europe has taken to defend itself.

The European Army project has become the symbol for this country of a European will to fight and to cooperate. Unless the American administration can show that the European Army is on the point of coming into existence, the whole foreign aid programme may be endangered or be made conditional on the creation of a European Army within a prescribed period.

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## Swedish Approach To Housing Problems

By NADIA STEIN

SWEDEN has tackled her housing problem with the same alacrity and thoughtful planning which traditionally she devotes to all social problems. Her town planners have worked on the assumption that even the well-appointed home can cope with the exigencies of modern life only if it forms part and parcel of a neighbourhood, in terms of services—and that the latter must be equipped with the most modern, centralized facilities and technical amenities. Housing projects in Sweden are, therefore, turning into self-sufficient, well-organized neighbourhood units built by teams of architects, sociologists, public authorities, representatives of women's organizations and labour unions. Perhaps at no time and at no place has the so-called "common man" been able to reside in such suitable and pleasant surroundings.

Until the thirties, housing in Sweden was entirely the concern of private enterprise—but this included also the beginnings of Cooperative Building which offered the tenant some protection against exploitation and helped ensure low cost housing. In 1933, a Social Housing Commission, sponsored by the Government, revealed that a startling number of families with children, and old people lived under wholly unsuitable conditions and it was decided these two groups would receive priority in the construction of decent living quarters.

**Central Heating**  
With the outbreak of World War II, the Government was forced to embark on an active, broad-based housing policy. In 1942, the following aims were declared official: reduction of density per room to two persons, raising technical standards for urban and rural housing alike to include such necessities (in the Land of the Long Winter) as universal central heating, bringing the supply closer to demand both in cost and in quality. With these ends in view, the Government, functioning within the framework of a 15-year Plan, undertook the granting of extensive loans and building credits at low interest to all builders, subsidies of various kinds (in compensation for the freezing of rents at the 1939 level and assistance to homebuilders of restricted means). The Government took over control of plans, construction costs and decreed technical standards for all housing built with Government aid.

Since 1942, 2,000 million Swedish crowns have been spent on building credits and subsidies—an additional fifth of this sum having been contributed by communities. During this period, half a million residential units were built—one and a half million rooms.

Yours etc.  
H. W.

Tel Aviv, Dec. 4.

**IPO Replies**

To the Editor of THE POST.  
Sir,—It's about time some one raised The Barbed-Wire Question. I can understand why masses of wire left from the recent war have not yet been removed: properly owners are lazy, Jerusalem is short of labourers etc.

But why, in our loveliest of pleasure gardens, must flower beds be surrounded by such menaces to health? Scratches from rusty wire can cause serious blood-poisoning in adults and children alike.

Yours, etc.,  
Dr. SHOLOM J. KAHN  
Jerusalem, December 9.

**SUBSCRIBER'S GRIEVANCE**

To the Editor of THE POST.  
Sir,—I think all the two-and-a-half-thousand subscribers of the I.P.O.'s two new subscription series will share my deep regret that we were

first-rate string ensemble, confirmed the favourable impression of its premiere last year. The concert ended with Dvořák's dynamic "Symphony No. 4 in G Major." Rarely performed the symphony is nationalistic in rhythm and colour.

**Great Britten**  
Benjamin Britten's seventh opera "Billy Budd," the first full-scale opera he has written since "Peter Grimes," was originally scheduled for this year's Edinburgh Festival. It was, however, premiered at Covent Garden under the composer's direction this month. The libretto (with an all-male cast) by novelist E.M. Forster and Eric Crozier is based on Melville's novel of the British Navy during the Napoleonic Wars. It tells the story of a young sailor who represents the forces of good in their struggle with evil. The "Times" critic discovered "two strokes of genius" while the London Sunday Graphic declared that "a masterpiece was born and it will outlive the lot of us." The Sunday Observer wrote: "The same salty sea-tang of Peter Grimes is there with a ripper humanity... expressed in a way impossible to achieve except through music."

**Lazar Levy and Saint-Saens**  
Lazar Levy's return as the soloist in Saint-Saens' Piano Concerto No. 5 in F (the "Egyptian") in Kol Yisrael's Tuesday night concert, conducted by Hanan Schlesinger, was a fine performance. The orientalist of this Concerto by the composer of "Samson and Delilah" seemed superficial. The distinguished pianist was subtle in touch, bringing out the work's lyricism and elegance.

Yehuda Woll's "Rondo Patetico," which demands a

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By NADIA STEIN

SWEDEN has tackled her housing problem with the same alacrity and thoughtful planning which traditionally she devotes to all social problems. Her town planners have worked on the assumption that even the well-appointed home can cope with the exigencies of modern life only if it forms part and parcel of a neighbourhood, in terms of services—and that the latter must be equipped with the most modern, centralized facilities and technical amenities. Housing projects in Sweden are, therefore, turning into self-sufficient, well-organized neighbourhood units built by teams of architects, sociologists, public authorities, representatives of women's organizations and labour unions. Perhaps at no time and at no place has the so-called "common man" been able to reside in such suitable and pleasant surroundings.

Until the thirties, housing in Sweden was entirely the concern of private enterprise—but this included also the beginnings of Cooperative Building which offered the tenant some protection against exploitation and helped ensure low cost housing. In 1933, a Social Housing Commission, sponsored by the Government, revealed that a startling number of families with children, and old people lived under wholly unsuitable conditions and it was decided these two groups would receive priority in the construction of decent living quarters.

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With the outbreak of World War II, the Government was forced to embark on an active, broad-based housing policy. In 1942, the following aims were declared official: reduction of density per room to two persons, raising technical standards for urban and rural housing alike to include such necessities (in the Land of the Long Winter) as universal central heating, bringing the supply closer to demand both in cost and in quality. With these ends in view, the Government, functioning within the framework of a 15-year Plan, undertook the granting of extensive loans and building credits at low interest to all builders, subsidies of various kinds (in compensation for the freezing of rents at the 1939 level and assistance to homebuilders of restricted means). The Government took over control of plans, construction costs and decreed technical standards for all housing built with Government aid.

Since 1942, 2,000 million Swedish crowns have been spent on building credits and subsidies—an additional fifth of this sum having been contributed by communities. During this period, half a million residential units were built—one and a half million rooms.

Yours etc.  
H. W.

Tel Aviv, Dec. 4.

**IPO Replies**

To the Editor of THE POST.  
Sir,—Posters and advertisements regarding the Special Subscription Series clearly stated that soloists would be "Elman, Wittgenstein, Piatigorsky and local soloists." The names of Rubinstein or that of Heifetz were not mentioned since it was known beforehand neither could appear in these concerts.

Yours, etc.,  
Publicity Officer,  
Israel Philharmonic Orchestra  
Tel Aviv, Dec. 10.

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## MUSICAL DIARY

THE highlight of the Fourth IPO Subscription concert, at the Ohel Shem on Tuesday, was Conductor Igor Markevitch. Although his interpretations are unusual, he captured the public mainly through his honest and poignantly spiritual approach.

Handel's "Concerto Grosso op. 6, No. 5," which has not been played here before, first revealed Markevitch's ability. Although ascetic in movement, he succeeded in unveiling the abundant musical wealth hidden in the work, his leisurely rendition of the "Menuetto" was particularly delightful. Later, in Schubert's D Major Symphony, the conductor's grace and musical sagacity brought its spontaneous gaiety to the fore. This is, probably, the most "easy-going" of all the Schubert symphonies; it has no slow movements and the "adagio maestoso" introduction appears as a mere formality.

The evening's main work was the newest Honegger symphony, his sixth. It is mystic in conception, starting with an insistent choral movement, followed by a grim scherzo-like allegro reflecting presentiments of the other world, written in the harsh and often atonal language of the Swiss-French composer.

THE third movement, "allegro marcato," is the least convincing part of the work. Although the symphony demands uninterrupted attention one can't help feeling strangely detached from it. In any case, the work does not radiate either the brio of Honegger's Third Symphony, we have heard here a few years ago under the baton of Charles Münch, or the spiritual power of his great oratorios, "Jeanne d'Arc" and "King David."

Markovitch gave a highly distinctive interpretation, and the orchestra followed him as it has followed few conductors. He concluded the evening with three dances from De Falla's "Three-Cornered Hat."

Lazar Levy and Saint-Saens

Lazar Levy's return as the soloist in Saint-Saens' Piano Concerto No. 5 in F (the "Egyptian") in Kol Yisrael's Tuesday night concert, conducted by Hanan Schlesinger, was a fine performance. The orientalist of this Concerto by the composer of "Samson and Delilah" seemed superficial. The distinguished pianist was subtle in touch, bringing out the work's lyricism and elegance.

Yehuda Woll's "Rondo Patetico," which demands a

first-rate string ensemble, confirmed the favourable impression of its premiere last year. The concert ended with Dvořák's dynamic "Symphony No. 4 in G Major." Rarely performed the symphony is nationalistic in rhythm and colour.

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Benjamin Britten's seventh opera "Billy Budd," the first full-scale opera he has written since "Peter Grimes," was originally scheduled for this year's Edinburgh Festival. It was, however, premiered at Covent Garden under the composer's direction this month. The libretto (with an all-male cast) by novelist E.M. Forster and Eric Crozier is based on Melville's novel of the British Navy during the Napoleonic Wars. It tells the story of a young sailor who represents the forces of good in their struggle with evil. The "Times" critic discovered "two strokes of genius" while the London Sunday Graphic declared that "a masterpiece was born and it will outlive the lot of us." The Sunday Observer wrote: "The same salty sea-tang of Peter Grimes is there with a ripper humanity... expressed in a way impossible to achieve except through music."

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